

a. 4882

REMARKS
UPON THE
Antient and present STATE
OF
LONDON,

577e 23

Occasion'd by some
Roman URNS, COINS,
AND OTHER
ANTIQUITIES,
Lately discover'd.

R. Woodward

*Quis est quem non moveat clarissimis Monumentis
testata consignataq; Antiquitas?*

Cic. de Divinat. Lib. 1.

The Third Edition.

L O N D O N,

Printed for *A. Bettesworth* and *W. Taylor* in *Pater-*
noster Row, *R. Gosling* in *Fleet-street*, and *J. Clarke*
under the *Royal Exchange* in *Cornhill*, 1723.

Price 1 s.

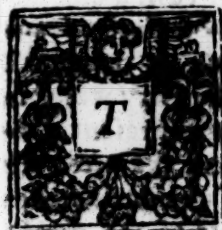




Advertisement

OF THE

BOOKSELLERS.



THOUGH these Letters were not wrote with Design to be printed, yet, having got into the Light, and two Impressions sold all off, to oblige those who still desire it, we have prevail'd with the Author to let us set forth a Third.

'TWAS to have been wish'd he had had Leisure to have publish'd, together with these, a Dissertation which he has wrote concerning an Image of Diana digg'd up near St. Paul's Church. His Account of the Roman Antiquities, in his Collection, found in several Parts of England, but chiefly about London: as also his Notes relating to the Gold, the Silver, the Amber, the Jet, the Pearls, the Purpura, and other Things mention'd by the antient Roman Historians, as then found in Britain, will, when he shall have Time to fit them for the Press, be acceptable to the Curious, and serve to explain and illustrate the antient State of this City and Nation.

The Contents of the First Letter.

§ 1. **O**F the present flourishing State of *London*. § 2. No Records of the original Founders, or of the most antient State of this City. § 3. That Defect only to be supply'd by Means of Remains of antient Works and Monuments. § 4. The Improvements of the City since the Fire in 1666. § 5. Sir *Chr. Wren's* Observations of the Antiquities of *London*. § 6. Mr. *Coniers's* Collections and Observations. § 7. Antiquities lately discover'd near *Bishops-Gate*. § 8. Particularly an antient tessellated Pavement. § 9. As also Sepulchral Urns. § 10. And several other Things. § 11. An Human Skull and Bones digg'd up in the same Place. § 12. The Fabrick of the antient *Roman* Wall about *London*. § 13. That Wall much ruin'd and demolish'd. § 14. The frequent Vicissitudes of *England* antiently; and the Difficulties under which it labour'd. § 15. The Insults and Dangers to which the City was formerly expos'd. § 16. The Advantage of the present *British* Constitution and Government. § 17. And the great Security of the City in our Times. § 18. Of the antient *Roman* Bricks; and occasionally of the *Standard* of the *Roman* Foot. § 19. The Fabrick of the additional Work built upon the Ruins of the old Wall. § 20. The Fabrick of the upper Wall, rais'd upon the additional Work. § 21. *London* not built by the antient *Britains*. § 22. Of the *Druids*; and the State of Science here in their Times. § 23. The Error of those who take the *Roman* for *British* Bricks. § 24. Of the Towns, the Houses, and the Temples of the *Britains*. § 25. The *Romans*, and other Nations, as savage of old, and as much Strangers to Arts, as the *Britains*. § 26. Of the gradual Enlargement of the City antiently: and the Progress of it to the East. § 27. A Method to discover the antient Bounds and Extent of the City, by attending to the Places where Sepulchral Urns are digg'd up. § 28. The *Romans* were wont to burn their Dead. § 29. That Custom fell into Disuse as the Christian Religion prevail'd. § 30. Christianity very antient in *Britain*. § 31. Of the Preservation of the Bones of Persons bury'd, for so many Ages. § 32. The Means of discovering the Situation of the several Temples antiently in *London*. § 33. A Temple of *Diana* formerly near the Place where now *St. Paul's* Church is.

The Contents of the Second Letter.

§ 1. The Occasion of writing the foregoing Account.
 § 2. An antient *Roman* Tower yet standing in *London-Wall*.
 § 3. Of Dr. *Gale's* Comment on *Antoninus's Itinerary*.
 § 4. *London* not first built on the South Side the *Thames*.



T O

Sir Christopher Wren.

S I R,

§ I.  Have, with great Pleasure, more than once, discours'd with you concerning the Condition of this City. As its Situation is the most happy, and commodious, of any in the World besides; so 'tis, without Dispute, the largest, the most extensive, and populous, as well as the most stately and magnificent. Of that Magnificence, Sir, you have been the chief Contriver: and the Director of more truly noble and regular Buildings, than perhaps any one Man from the Creation to this Day. They who view and admire its present Beauty and Grandeur: who see so many Thousand Houses,

Of the present flourishing State of London.

Houſes, of even private Citizens, built in ſuch a Manner as to render them not only more convenient, better fitted for Uſe, and for ſerving all the Ends and Offices of Life and Habitation, but even ſuperior in Deſign, and Architecture, to the Palaces of Princes elſewhere, will be forward to enquire into its primitive State, and by what Steps and Degrees it arriv'd to ſo great Height and Glory.

No Records of the original Founders, or of the moſt ancient State of this City.

§ 2. 'Tis with ſome Diſſatisfaction that I muſt at preſent take Notice that there are no Records of its Original, and that we are left to mere Conjecture to determine who were the Projectors and Builders of it. A Writer of the firſt Rank^a, hath, in his uſual Manner, with great Appearance of Reaſon, given the Romans here the Honour of Founding of it. They were indeed a People of vaſt Penetration, and very diſtinguiſhed Senſe: and none likely ſooner to find out the Advantage of the Place, and Situation, in

^a Biſhop Stillingfleet's Diſcourſe of the true Antiquity of London, (in the ſecond Part of his Eccleſiaſtical Caſes) p. 472.

in all Respects. This is certain, *Tacitus* is the oldest Author in whom we find Mention^b made of *London*. But it must have been built some Time before ; since it was then become so *very considerable for the great Number of Merchants, and Plenty of valuable Commodities*. After him, *Ammianus Marcellinus* speaks^c of it ; tho' as of a *Town* that was *antient*, and call'd formerly *Lundinium*, but in his Days *Augusta*. From that Time downwards we have little Account of it. Indeed, after the *Romans* had recall'd their Forces, and were gone, so frequent were the Revolutions, and so unsettled the State of this Nation, that scarcely any Incouragement was given to Science, or to History in particular. That it's the less to be wonder'd there is scarcely any Thing extant relating to the State of this City ; even till the Time that the accurate and industrious

^b *Annalium Lib. XIV. Cap. 33. Londinium copia negotiatorum & com meatuum maxime celebre.*

^c *Rer. gest. Lib. XXVII. Cap. 8. Lundinium vetus oppidum, quod Augustam posteritas appellavit.*

dustrious Mr. *Stow* began his *Survey of London*.

That Defect only
to be supply'd by
Means of
Remains
of antient
Works, and
Monu-
ments.

§ 3. But there is one Way by which may be retriev'd something relating to its more early State, its Site, its Bounds, and other Circumstances; I mean by the Remains of *Roman* Works, that have been discover'd in digging for laying the Foundations of the new Buildings since the late great Fire.

The Improve-
ments of
the City
since the
Fire in
1666.

§ 4. That Fire was so very furious, and the Devastation, then made, so near universal, that any, but the great Spirit of the *English*, would have flagg'd and sunk under so dismal a Calamity, and despair'd of ever raising a new City out of such an Heap of Ashes and Ruins. But here, quite contrary, all Hands set instantly about that great Work: all Minds join'd in a

*Surge, precor, veneranda Parens, &
certa secundis
Fide Deis, humilemque metum de-
pone senectæ,
Urbs æquæva polo^d,*

and

^d Claudian. de Bello Get. v. 52.

and the World, looking on, stood amaz'd to see, in so short a Time, such a Number of noble Piles finish'd, and a City built, not only surpassing the former, but all others upon Earth. So that that Fire, however disastrous it might be to the then Inhabitants, has prov'd infinitely beneficial to their Posterity ; conducing vastly to the Improvement and Increase, as well of the Riches and Opulency, as of the Splendour of this City. Then, (which I, and every Body, must observe with great Satisfaction) by Means of the Inlargements of the Streets : of the great Plenty of good Water, convey'd to all Parts : of the Common-Sewers, and other like Contrivances, such Provision is made for a free Access and Passage of the Air, for Sweetness, for Cleanness, and for Salubrity, that it is not only the finest, but the most healthy City in the World. Insomuch that, for the Plague, and other dangerous Distempers, with which it was formerly so frequently annoy'd, and by which so great a Number of the Inhabitants were

so cruelly taken off but the Year before the Fire, an Experience, of above forty Years, since, hath shewn it so wholely free, that it's very probably now not near so obnoxious, or liable to be infested by those so fatal and pernicious Maladies.

Sir Christopher Wren's Observations of the Antiquities of London.

§ 5. As to the Remains of *Roman* Workmanship, that were discover'd upon Occasion of Rebuilding the City, no Man had greater Opportunity of making Remarks upon them than you: nor, Sir, has any Man ever done it to better Purpose. And, as you have long promis'd me an Account of those Observations, so I shall ever insist upon it, and not cease to challenge it, as a Debt your Generosity has made due to me, 'till you acquit yourself of the Obligation.

Mr. Coniers's Collections, and Observations.

§ 6. I have now in my Custody a considerable Number and Variety of *Roman* Antiquities that have been digg'd up in and about this City. Several of them were collected by Mr. Coniers, who was living at the Time of the Rebuilding it after the Fire, and very indefatigable in his Enquiries.

Enquiries. 'Tis great Pity he had not Incouragement to set forth some Relation of them. But he having only the Returns of his Profession to depend upon, and there being at that Time so very few that were forward to contribute any Thing to the Support of such Studies, however curious and useful, Posterity has been depriv'd of the Benefit of his. All that I am able to retrieve from the Remains of his Collection that I purchas'd, or the many other Things that I have since procur'd, shall be most freely imparted, either to Mr. *Strype*, (to whose Diligence the learned World stands greatly indebted, and who is now actually engag'd in setting forth a new Edition of *Stow's Survey of London*, with Enlargements) or to any other Person, who has Leisure and Capacity to turn them to the Pleasure and Advantage of the Publick, so soon, Sir, as you shall please to communicate your Observations; which will be of great Use, and ought by no Means to be any longer withheld and suppress'd.

Antiqui-
ties lately
discover'd
near Bi-
shops-Gate.

§ 7. Mean while give me Leave, Sir, to send you a few Reflections upon some Things of this Kind, now lately brought to Light in the Neighbourhood of this College. For the Particulars we are indebted to the Curiosity of Mr. *Miller*; who, living just by the Place, visited it daily, and took Notice of all that occur'd. He is a Person, as of great Application, so of no less Candour, and Exactness; that his Accounts may be securely rely'd on.

Particular-
ly an an-
cient res-
tallated
Pavement.

§ 8. In *April* last, upon the pulling down some old Houses, adjoining to *Bishop's-Gate*, in *Camomile-street*, in order to the building there anew: and digging, to make Cellars, about four Foot under Ground, was discover'd a Pavement, consisting of diced Bricks, the most red, but some few black, and others yellow; all nearly of a Size, and very small, hardly any exceeding an Inch in Thickness. The Extent of the Pavement, in Length, was uncertain; it running from *Bishops-Gate*, for sixty Foot, quite under the Foundation of some Houses

Houses not yet pull'd down. Its Breadth was about ten Foot; terminating, on that Side, at the Distance of three Foot and an Half from the City Wall.

§ 9. Sinking downwards, under the Pavement, only Rubbish occurr'd for about two Foot: and then the Workmen came to a *Stratum* of Clay; in which, at the Depth of two Foot more, they found several Urns. Some of them were become so tender and rotten, that they easily crumbled and fell to Pieces. As to those that had the Fortune better to escape the Injuries of Time, and the Strokes of the Workmen that rais'd the Earth, they were of different Forms; but all of very handsome Make and Contrivance; as, indeed, most of the *Roman* Vessels we find ever are. Which is but one of many Instances that are at this Day extant of the Art of that People: of the great Exactness of their Genius, and Happiness of their Fancy. These Urns were of various Sizes; the largest capable of holding full three Gallons: the least, somewhat
above

As also
Sepulchral
Urns:

above a Quart. All of these had in them, Ashes, and Cinders of burn'd Bones.

and several other Things.

§ 10. Along with the Urns were found various other Earthen Vessels; as, a *Simpulum*, a *Patera* of a very fine red Earth, and a blueish Glass Viol, of that Sort that is commonly call'd a *Lachrymatory*. These were all broke by the Carelessness of the Workmen. There were likewise found several Beads, one or two Copper Rings, a *Fibula* of the same Metall, but much impair'd and decay'd: as also a Coin of *Antoninus Pius*, exhibiting, on one Side, the Head of that Emperor, with a radiated Crown on, and this Inscription, *ANTONINUS AUG :: :: IMP. XVI*. On the Reverse was the Figure of a Woman, sitting, and holding in her right-Hand a *Patera*: in her left, an *Hasta pura*. The Inscription, on this Side, was wholly obliterated and gone.

An human Skull and Bones digg'd up in the same Place.

§ 11. At about the same Depth with the Things before-mention'd, but nearer to the City-Wall, and without the Verge of the Pavement,

ment, was digg'd up an Human Skull, with several Bones that were whole, and had not passed the Fire, as those in the Urns had. ^cMr. *Stow* makes Mention of Bones found, in like Manner, not far from this Place, and likewise of Urns, with Ashes in them: as do also Mr. *Weever*^f after him, and Mr. *Camden*^g.

§ 12. The City-Wall being, upon this Occasion, to make Way for these new Buildings, broke up, and beat to Pieces, from *Bishops-Gate*, onwards, S.E. so far as they extend, an Opportunity was given of observing the Fabrick and Composition of it. From the Foundation, which lay eight Foot below the present Surface, quite up to the Top, which was, in all, near ten Foot, it was compil'd alternately of Layers of broad flat Bricks, and of Rag-Stone^h. The Bricks lay in double Ranges: and, each Brick being but one Inch $\frac{3}{4}$ in Thickness,

the

The Fa-
brick of
the antient
Roman
Wall about
London.

^c Survey of *London*, p. 177. ^f Antient Funerall Monuments, p. 515. ^g In *Middlesex*. ^h Alternis choris parietes alligantur: & medii lateres, supra coagmenta collocati, & firmitatem & speciem faciunt utraque parte non inveniuntur. Vitruv. Architect. Lib. II. Cap. 3.

the whole Layer, with the Mortar interpos'd, exceeded not three Inches. The Layers of Stone were not quite two Foot thick, of our Measure. 'Tis probable they were intended for two of the *Roman*; their *Rule* being somewhat shorter than ours. To this Height the Workmanship was after the *Roman* Manner: and these were the Remains of the antient Wall, supposed to be built by *Constantine the Great*ⁱ. In this it was very observable, that the Mortar was, as usually in the *Roman* Works, so very firm and hard, that the Stone itself as easily broke, and gave Way, as that. 'Twas thus far, from the Foundation upwards, nine Foot in Thickness.

That Wall
much
ruin'd and
demolish'd

§ 13. And yet so vast a Bulk, and Strength, had not been able to secure it from being beat down in former Ages, and near levell'd with the Ground. This, rightly reflected upon, will alone be sufficient to give us an Idea of the Difference

ⁱ Confer *Camden's Britannia in Middlesex*, p. 312. and *Burton's Comment. on Antoninus's Itinerary*, p. 165.

ference betwixt those Times, and ours : betwixt that State of Things, and the present.

§ 14. They best know how to set a just Value upon the present happy Settlement, who are vers'd in our History, and duly appriz'd what *England* suffer'd of old from the Descent of the *Romans*, and afterwards of the *Saxons*, and *Danes* : from the frequent Wars of *Scotland* : and our own intestine Divisions during the Heptarchy, the Barons, and the late Civil Wars.

The frequent Vicissitudes of *England* antiently : and the Difficulties under which it labour'd.

§ 15. As *London* was ever sure to have its Share in the common Calamity, so better Judgment may be made how great that frequently was, by the Provision that was made against it, The Citizens would never have put themselves to so vast an Expence, for Fence and Guard without, had not the Uncertainties of those Times, and the Dangers, with which they were so frequently alarm'd, made that requisite.

The Insults and Dangers to which the City was formerly expos'd.

C

§ 16. But

The Advantage of
the present
British
Constitution and
Government :

§ 16. But such now for some Time has been the fortunate Condition of *England*, that she may safely confide in the Hearts and Hands of her Subjects, and fix her whole Strength and Defense there. The Union of the formerly greatly divided Interests and Affections of the Inhabitants of the several Parts of this Nation, which we in our Days have had the Satisfaction to see successfully effected in the other too, and carry'd on even to the utmost Bounds of the Island : the Excellence of our Constitution, and of our Laws : the steady Execution of them : and the reciprocal good Understanding between the Prince and People, have render'd us effectually, as well safe at Home, as great and powerful Abroad.

and the
great Security of the
City in
our Times.

§ 17. As the City partakes with the whole Nation in this happy Security : as it needs no other, and can never possibly have any greater ; so we may now very well and safely raze our Walls, and demolish our Fortifications ; they being not really of any longer Use.

§ 18. The

§ 18. The broad thin Bricks, above-mention'd, were all of *Roman Make* : and of the very Sort which, we learn from *Pliny*^k, were in common Use among the *Romans* ; being in *Length a Foot and Half*, of their Standard, and in *Breadth a Foot*. Measuring some of these, very carefully, I found them 17 Inches $\frac{4}{5}$ in Length, 11 Inches $\frac{1}{5}$ in Breadth, and 1 Inch $\frac{3}{5}$ in Thickness, of our Measure. This may afford some Light towards the settling and adjusting the Dimensions of the *Roman Foot* : and shewing the Proportion that it bears to the *English* ; a Thing of so great Use, that one of the most accomplish'd and judicious Writers^l of the last Century endeavour'd to compass it with a great deal of Travel and Pains. Indeed it's very remarkable that the *Foot Rule*, follow'd by the Makers of these Bricks, was

Of the
antient
Roman
Bricks :
and occa-
sionally of
the Stan-
dard of the
Roman
Foot.

C 2

very

^k Nat. Hist. Lib. XXXV. Cap. 14. *disceps, quo utimur, longum sesquipede, latum pede.* 'Tis very probable, the Standard, assign'd by *Vitruvius*, Architect. Lib. II. Cap. 3. is the same with this ; but the Passage being incorrect, I shall not alledge it. ^l Mr. *Greaves*, in his *Dist. of the Roman Foot*. 8vo.

very nearly the same with that exhibited on the Monument of *Cossutius* in the *Colotian* Gardens at *Rome*, which that admirable Mathematician has, with great Reason, pitch'd upon as *the true Roman Foot^m*. Hence likewise appears, what indeed was very probable without this Confirmation, that the Standard Foot at *Rome* was follow'd in the Colonies, and Provinces, to the very remotest Parts of the Empire: and that too quite down even to the Time of *Constantine*; in case this was the Wall that was built by his Appointment.

The Fa-
brick of
the addi-
tional
Work built
upon the
Ruins of
the old
Wall.

§ 19. The old Wall, having been demolish'd, as has been intimated above, was afterwards repair'd again, and carry'd up, of the same Thickness, to eight or nine Foot in Height. Or, if higher, there was no more of that Work now standing. All this was apparently additional, and of a Make later than the other Part underneath. That was levell'd at top, and brought to a Plane, in order to the railing this
new

^m Mr. *Greaves* loc. cit. p. 32.

new Work upon it. The Outside, or that towards the Suburbs, was faced with a coarse Sort of Stone, not compil'd with any great Care, or Skill, nor dispos'd into a regular Method. But, on the Inside, there appear'd more Marks of Workmanship and Art. At the Bottom were five Layers, compos'd of Squares of Flint, and of Free-Stone. Tho' they were not so, in all Parts, yet in some the Squares were near equal, about five Inches in Diameter, and rang'd in a Quincunx Order. Over these was a Layer of Brick : then of hew'n Free-Stone : and so alternately, Brick, and Stone, to the Top. There were of the Bricks, in all, six Layers ; each consisting only of a double Course ; except that which lay above all, in which there were four Courses of Bricks, where the Layer was intire. These Bricks were of the Shape of those now in Use ; but much larger ; being near 11 Inches in Length, 5 in Breadth, and somewhat above $2\frac{1}{2}$ in Thickness. Of the Stone there were five Layers : and each of equal Thickness, in all Parts,
for

for its whole Length. The highest, and the lowest of these, were somewhat above a Foot in Thickness : the three middle Layers each five Inches. So that the whole Height of this additional Work was near nine Foot. As to the interior Parts, or the main Bulk of the Wall, 'twas made up of Pieces of Rubble-Stone ; with a few Bricks, of the same Sort of those us'd in the inner Facing of the Wall, laid uncertainly, as they happen'd to come to Hand, and not in any stated Method. There was not one of the broad thin *Roman* Bricks, mention'd above, in all this Part : nor was the Mortar here near so hard as in that below. But, from the Description, may easily be collected, that this Part, when first made, and intire, with so various and orderly a Disposition of the Materials, Flint, Stone, Bricks, could not but carry a very elegant and handsome Aspect. Whether this was done at the Expense of the Barons, in the Reign of King *John* : or of the Citizens, in the Reign of King *Henry III* : or of King

King *Richard IIⁿ*: or at what other Time, I cannot take upon me to ascertain from Accounts so defective and obscure as are those which at this Day remain of this Affair.

§ 20. Upon the additional Work, now describ'd, was rais'd a Wall wholely of Brick; only that, it terminating in Battlements, these are top'd with Copings of Stone. 'Tis two Foot four Inches in Thickness, and somewhat above eight Foot in Height. The Bricks of this are of the same Module, and Size, with those of the Part underneath. How long they had been in Use is uncertain. But there can be no Doubt but this is the Wall that was built in the Year 1477, in the Reign of King *Edward IV.* Mr. *Stow*^a informs us that that was compil'd of Bricks made of Clay got in *Moor-Fields*: and mentions two Coats of Arms fixt in it near *Moor-Gate*; one of which is extant to this Day, tho' the Stone, whereon it was ingrav'd, be somewhat worn and defac'd. *Bishops-Gate*, it self, was built two Years

The Fa-
brick of
the upper
Wall, rais'd
upon the
additional
Work.

^a See Mr. *Stow's* Survey of London, p. 7. ^o *Ibid* p. 7, 8.

Years after this Wall, in the Form it still retains^p. The Workmen, lately imploy'd there, sunk considerably lower than the Foundations of this Gate : and, by that Means, learn'd they lay not so deep as those of the old *Roman Wall* by four or five Foot.

*London not
built by
the antient
Britains.*

§ 21. *Geofry of Monmouth*^q will have *London* to have been a *British City*, incompass'd with *Walls*, and fortify'd with *innumerable Towers*. But the World is now well agreed in Opinion how little Regard is due to that Monkish^r Writer ; and they who have read the Accounts of *Britain* left us by *Cæsar*, *Tacitus*, and other Authors of Judgment and Credit, will presently see his cannot be true.

*Of the
Druids :
and the
State of
Science
here in
their
Times.*

§ 22. The *Britains* in those Days were barbarous, and wholly unciviliz'd^f. Except some who had Skins, and Hides of Brutes cast over them^t, they went naked^v, and painted

^p *Stow's Survey*, p. 33. ^q *Hist. Brit. Lib. III. Cap. 20.*
^r Confer J. Balæi illustr. *Brit. Script. Cent. 2. p. 194.*
Ed. Bas. MDLIX. ^t *Herodian Lib. III. p. 83.* Ed.
H. Steph. Par. MDLXXXI. *Pomp. Mela Lib. III.*
Cap. 6. ^v *Cæsar Lib. V. Cap. 14. p. 116.* Ed. Jun-
germanni, Franc. MDCVI. ^f *Xiphilin Lib. XXI.*
Pag. 866. Ed. Hanov. (typis Wechel.) MDCVI.

ed^w their Bodies with the Figures of various Animals, after the Manner of other Savage Nations. Their Diet, and Method of Life, was very mean*. There was little or nothing that could claim the Name of Science among them. What they had was lodg'd with the Druids, who were the Divines and Philosophers of those Times: and there are some who have entertain'd very lofty Thoughts of that Order of Men. These Gentlemen may be allow'd to indulge their Imaginations as far as they please; but if we rightly reflect upon what we find on Record concerning the Notions and Practice of the Druids, 'twill not carry our Idea's to any great Height. *They had nothing in greater Veneration than Mistletoe, and the Tree upon which it grew, especially if that happen'd to be an Oak. Nor would they perform any Act of Religion without a Bough of this Tree;*

D

to

* Caesar Lib. V. p. 116. Plin. XXII. 1. Pomp. Mela Lib. III. Cap. 6. Herodian. Lib. III. p. 83. ut supra. * Strabo Lib. IV. p. 200. Ed. Casaub. Par. MDCXX. Diodor. Sic. Lib. IV. p. 301. Ed. Rhodomanni Hanov. (typis Wechel.) MDCIV. Xi. philin. Lib. VI. p. 703. & Lib. XXI. p. 866.

to which they seem to have paid Divine Honours ;

——— *Robora numinis instar*^y.

They were wont to gather the Mistletoe with a mighty deal of Devotion and Ceremony. They thought it sent immediately from Heaven : and a Token that the Tree, whereon it grew, was mark'd out and chosen by their God himself. They gave Mistletoe the Name of *All-Heal* : ascrib'd to it a Power of rendering prolific any Creature that was barren : and thought it a Remedy against all Sorts of Poysons ; so much of the Religion of the Barbarous Nations is placed chiefly in Things really mean and trivial^z, as Pliny, the Author of this Account, observes, very pertinently, upon the Occasion. But further, the Druids taught the Doctrine of the Transmigration of the Soul^a : and they were wont to offer Men in Sacrifice^b. They cut them up alive, in order to the making

^y Claudian. in Conf. I. Stilichon. *Lib. I. v. 229.*

^z Tanta gentium in rebus frivolis plerumque religio est. Plin. N. H. *Lib. XVI. Cap. 44.* ^a Cæsar *Lib. VI. Cap. 14. p. 155.* Ed. Jungerm. ^b Diodor. Sic. *Lib. V. p. 308.* Cæsar *Lib. VI. Cap. 16. p. 156.* Tacit. An. *Lib. XIV. Cap. 30.* Strabo *Lib. IV. p. 198.* Ed. Casaub. Pomp. Mela *Lib. III. Cap. 2.*

king their Divinations: and, by the Manner of the Fall of the poor unhappy Wretch, by the Convulsion of the Parts, and Efflux of the Blood, they form'd their Presages of future Events^c. Other Methods they had likewise of sacrificing Men; some they kill'd with Arrows: others they crucify'd^d. Nay they were sometimes wont to frame a huge *Colossus*, with Hay, Twigs, and Wood; in which having put several Men alive, and Brutes of all Kinds, they set Fire to it, and made an *Holocaust* of them all at once^e. This is the main of what Antiquity hath transmitted down to us of the Theology and Philosophy of the Druids: and, by this, 'twill not be hard to frame a Judgment of their Science, as to the *Stars*, the *World*, *Nature*, and the *Power of the Gods*^f; of which we have not the Particulars.

§ 23. As to the Habitations, and State of Building, among the ancient *Britains*, we have had, of late,

D 2

some,

The Error of those who take the Roman for British Bricks.

^c Diodor. Sic. *Lib. V.* p. 308. Strabo *Lib. IV.* p. 198. ^d Strabo *ibid.* ^e Caesar *Lib. VI.* p. 156. Strabo *Lib. IV.* p. 198. ^f Caesar *Lib. VI.* p. 156.

some, who, upon the Authority of *Geofry of Monmouth*, and the Heat of their own Fancy, have talked of Remains of Temples, and other noble Structures, of the *Dru-ids*. Whereas, in reality, the *Romans*, at their Descent here, found nothing that carry'd the Appearance of a Building: no not one Stone upon another: nor so much as a Brick in all the whole Island. And tho' some others may be easily pass'd over, I cannot but be somewhat surpriz'd to find a Gentleman of the great Diligence and Ingenuity of *Mr. Somner*^s taking the *Roman* Bricks, that he observ'd in the Walls of *Canterbury*, for *British* Bricks. But 'tis not easy, when once a Man suffers himself to grow fond of a Subject, not to be over far transported: and screw Things to a Pitch much too high for those who are only indifferent Lookers on, and not touch'd with the Passion that such a Writer may himself feel.

Of the
Towns,
the Hou-
ses, and the
Temples of
the *Britains*

§ 24. *Xiphilin*, to whom we owe a very considerable Extract out of *Dion Cassius* concerning *Britain*, treating

^s *Antiquities of Canterbury*, p. 4.

ing of the *Maata*, or Inhabitants of the now most Northern Counties of *England*, asserts that they had *neither Walls nor Cityes*^h; what passed under the Names of *Cityes*, in *Britain*, being, according to *Strabo*, no other than *Groves*ⁱ. So likewise *Cæsar*, *The Britains call it a Town when they have surrounded and fenced about their thickest Woods with a Bank and a Ditch*^k. As to their *Houses*, a *Tree*^l serv'd some for that Purpose: others run up *Hutts*^m in the Woods for their own Use: and *Hovels* for their *Cattle*ⁿ; both very slight, and not of any long Continuance, serving only for some small Shelter to them, during the Strefs of Weather, in the Depth of Winter. *Diodorus Siculus*^o is somewhat more particular as to their Structure, informing us that they were only *slight Cabins*, compos'd chiefly of *Reeds, or Sticks*.

Cæsar

^h Μῆτε τείχη, μῆτε πόλεις, Xiph. Lib. XXI. p. 866.

ⁱ Πόλεις δ' αὐτῶν εἰσιν οἱ δρυμοί, Strabo Lib. IV. p. 200.

^k Oppidum autem Britanni vocant, quum sylvas impeditas vallo atque fossa munierunt. De Bello Gall. Lib. V. Cap. 21. p. 120. ^l Πᾶν δ' δένδρον οἰκία. Xiph. Lib. VI. p. 703. ^m Καλυβοποιεῖν. Strabo Lib. IV. p. 200. ⁿ Βοσκήματα — ἡ πρὸς πολὺν χρόνον. ibid. ^o Τὰς οἰκίας ἀτελεῖς ἔχουσιν, ἐν τῷ καλῶν, ἢ ἑλῶν κτ' τὸ πλεῖστον συγχεμένας. Lib. V. p. 301.

Cæsar observes that the *Houses* of the *Britains* were pretty like those of the *Gauls*^p, which he afterwards acquaints us were small *Cottages*, thatch'd with *Straw*^q. As to the Walls of them, we learn from *Strabo* they were made of *Stakes and Watlings*^r, after the manner of *Hurdles*. Then for the *Temples* of the *Druids*, they were of a Piece with the rest: and no other than *Groves and Woods*^s; which the *Romans* cut down, because the *Druids* had dedicated them to so cruel *Superstitions*, as the *Oblation* of human *Blood* and the *Sacrificing* of *Men*. Which is likewise intimated by *Lucan*^t,

Omnisque humanis lustrata cruoribus arbor:

and by *Claudian*^v,

—— *Lucosque vetustâ*

Relligione truces. ——

Pliny^w tells us that the *Druids* made
choice

^p *Ædificia fere Gallicis consimilia. De Bello Gall. Lib. V. Cap. 12. p. 115.* ^q *Casas, quæ, more Gallico, stramentis erant tectæ. Ibid. Cap. 43. p. 133.* ^r *Ex Καρίδων ἔν γέππων. Strabo Lib. IV. p. 197* ^s *Lucos ac nemora consecrant. Tacit. de Mor. Ger. Cap. 9. Excisique luci, sævis superstitionibus sacri. Nam cruore &c. Annal. Lib. XIV. Cap. 30.* ^t *Pharsal. Lib. III. v. 405.* ^v *In Stilichon. Lib. I. v. 228.* ^w *Druidæ — roborum eligunt lucos; — Sacrificiis epulisque rite sub arbore præparatis, &c. Nat. Hist. Lib. XVI. Cap. 44.*

choice of Groves of Oaks ; their *Sacrifices*, and their Religious *Feasts*, being wont to be solemniz'd under that *Tree*. The *Britains*, under the command of that brave and illustrious Heroine, *Bunduica*^x, after they had taken and plunder'd two Cities of the *Romans*, offer'd their *Sacrifices*, and kept their *Festivals* in a Grove dedicated to *Andate*, the Goddess of Victory^y. Indeed *Groves* were wont to serve the *Druids*, not only for their *Temples*, but for their *Dwellings*,

———— *Nemora alta remotis*

Incolitis lucis^z, —————

and in them, or in some Cave, they were wont to deliver out their *Precepts* and *Doctrines*^a.

§ 25. The Truth is, the *Britains* had then amongst them very Little that carry'd any Appearance of Art^b; except a few slight Things that probably they had either got of the *Gauls*, and *Phœnicians*, with whom

The *Romans*, and other Nations, as *Savage*, of old, and as much Strangers to Arts, as the *Britains*

^x Boudicea. Tacit. Annal. Lib. XIV. Cap. 31.

^y Θυονίς τε ἄμα, καὶ ἐσιώμενοι — ἐν πᾶσι τῇ Ἀνδατρῆς — ἄλσσι. Xiphilin. Lib. VI. p. 704. ^z Lucan. Lib. I.

v. 454. ^a Docent — in specu, aut in abditis saltibus. Pomp. Mela Lib. III. Cap. 2. ^b Xiphil. Lib. VI. p. 702, 703.

whom they had Commerce^c: or else made, themselves, in Imitation of them; as afterwards of the *Romans*, when they were once settled here. Whether their *Effeda* were like those of the *Gauls*^d, or the Chariots us'd in War by the *Phœnicians*^e: or of what Form they were, we have no Account. But it's most certain their Way of Fighting with them was very wild and extravagant^f. Nor will it be thought strange that our Progenitors should be, in those early Times, thus rude, and unciviliz'd, when 'tis known that several other great Nations were likewise so 'till lately: nay, that all Mankind quite round the Globe were once so, I mean at their first Original, in the Ages that ensu'd next after the Deluge. This the Histories and Accounts of the *Affyrians*, the *Egyptians*, the *Chineses*, and all others, agree in. Even the *Græcians*, that became afterwards the most polite and refined People

^c Diodor. Sic. *Lib. V.* p. 299, 300. *Cæsar Lib. V.* Cap. 12, &c. & *Lib. VI.* Cap. 13. *Strabo Lib. III.* p. 175. Conf. *Bochart. Part II. Lib. I. Cap. 39.*
^d *Strabo Lib. IV.* p. 200. ^e *Jos. XVII. 16.* ^f *Sam. XIII. 5.* ^g *Cæsar Lib. IV. Cap. 24. p. 99.*

People upon Earth, were once *barbarous*^g. They made as little Scruple as the *Britains* of slaying Men: and sacrificing them to the Deities which they worship'd^h. They liv'd upon *Leaves* and *Herbs*, or upon *Acorns*, 'till *Ceres* and *Triptolemus* taught them to *Plow*, and to *Sow Corn*. They had no other Clothing than only the *Skins* of Beasts. Some of them dwelt in *Caves*, others in mean *Hutts*ⁱ: others run *wild* in the *Woods*, like so many *Brutes*, 'till *Pelagius*, *Orpheus*, *Amphion*, and some other great Men, found out Ways to tame them, and to deterr and reclaim them from their *Rapine* and *Ferity*.

*Sylvestres homines sacer, interpresque Deorum,
Cædibus, Et victu fædo, deterruit Orpheus;
Dicitur ob hoc lenire tigres, rabidosque leones*^k.

Nay the *Romans* themselves were, not many Ages before their Descent upon this Island, wholely Strangers to all the politer Arts.

E

Pænico

^g — Τὸ παλαιὸν Ἑλληνικὸν ὁμοίотροπα τὰ νῦν βάρ-
βαρικῶ διακείμενον. Thucyd. Lib. I. Cap. 6. ^h Por-
phy. de Abst. Lib. II. ⁱ V. Plin. Lib. VII. Cap.
56. Pausan. Lib. VIII. & alios. ^k Hor. de Arte
Poët. v. 391.

*Panico bello secundo Musa pinnato gradu
Intulit se bellicosam in Romuli gentem feram*¹.

Julius Cæsar found the Natives of *Britain*, at his Landing, not more rude than *Evander* found those of *Italy*. They had no Houses : nor better Habitations than in hollow Trees, or in Caves^m. They offer'd up Men in Sacrificeⁿ. There was amongst them very little Shew of Humanity, of Manners, or any useful Accomplishment. They were ignorant of Tillage ; living only upon Vegetables, or what they caught in Hunting.

Hæc nemora indigenæ Fauni Nymphæque tenebant :

*Gensque virum truncis, & duro robore nata ;
Queis neque mos, neque cultus erat : nec jun-
gere tauros,*

*Aut componere opes norant, aut parcere parto :
Sed rami, atque asper victu venatus alebat*^o.

Indeed they were no other than so many wild Men, without Laws, and without

¹ Porcius Licinius ap. A. Gell. *Lib. XVII. Cap. 21.*

^m Ante factas domos, aut in cavis arboribus, aut in speluncis manebant. Serv. in *Æneid. VIII. 315.*

ⁿ Dionys. Halic. *Lib. I. Xiphilin. Lib. VI. p. 704.* Plin. *Lib. XXX. Cap. 1.* Porph. II. περὶ ἀποχῆς.

Macrob. Sat. *Lib. I.* Serv. in *Æneid. Lib. II. v. 116.*

^o *Æneid. Lib. VIII. v. 314. & seqq.* Conf. Dionys. Halic. *Lib. I.*

without Government^p; which cannot by any Means be said of the *Britains*. Nor had the *Romans* really made any considerable Progress in *Civility*, in *Arts* or *Science*, 'till after they had over-run *Greece*, and were cultivated and taught by that great and wise People.

Græcia capta, ferum victorem cepit, & artes Intulit agresti Latio^a.——

And as the *Greeks* were the greatest Masters in the World, so the *Romans* soon shew'd they were not less apt Proficients and Scholars. Nor will the *Britains* at this Day be judg'd inferior to either.

§ 26. Whether the old Wall, describ'd above, was the first with which *London* was environ'd, 'tis not easy to determine, for want of Records and Memorials. Mr. *Burton*^r fancies *Suetonius Paullinus*, who was sent over Governour hither by *Nero*, found it wall'd about at that Time. Though the Account of that Expedition which he follows,

Of the gradual Enlargement of the City antiently: and the Progress of it to the East.

E 2

I mean

^p Genus hominum agreste, sine legibus, sine imperio, Sallust. Bell. Catil. p. 4. Ed. Plant. MDCXII.

^a Hor. Epist. Lib. II. Ep. 1. v. 156. ^r Comment. on *Antoninus* his Itinerary, p. 161.

I mean that of *Tacitus*^f, is so far from giving any Countenance to his Conjecture, that it imports that *London* was then a Place of so little Strength that the *Roman* General quitted it, as not capable of being held out or defended. Be that as it will, this is certain, the Wall now in being was run up wide, and at some Distance from the former and antient Bounds of the City. If there was any Wall before, it must have been nearer this Way: and more to the West. Because the Urns, I have here given an Account of^t, were found in the *Inside* of this Wall; whereas it was the standing Custom of the *Romans*, founded upon a Law of the XII. Tables^v, to *bury only without the City*. This affords us a Proof that *London* did not formerly extend so far East: and that this Wall must have been built since those Urns were repositied there; which we may conjecture was about the Time of *Antoninus*,

^f *Annal. Lib. XIV. Cap. 33.* ^t § 9. *supra.* ^v *Par. I. De Jure Sacro. Hominem mortuum in urbe ne sepelito, neve urito.*

toninus, from the Coin of that Emperour^w bury'd amongst them.

§ 27. As from these Urns here, so from those of late Years brought to Light in great Numbers on the other Sides of the Town, some Advances may be made towards ascertaining the old Boundaries of it there: and by a careful Collation of all, towards adjusting the Form, and settling the Extent, of the whole; whenever One, who has Leisure, and due Information, shall engage in the Undertaking.

A Method to discover the antient Bounds and Extent of the City, by attending to the Places where Sepulchral Urns are digg'd up.

§ 28. Though the Romans committed not the Body of *Numa* deceased to the Fire, he himself having expressly forbidden it, as there was a Tradition^x, quite down to the Time of *Plutarch*, the Writer of the Life of that Prince: and there were likewise a few others exempted^y; yet 'twas the common Custom, among them, to burn their Dead. But this fell into disuse as Christianity prevail'd in the Empire: and the Professors of it brought the Manner

The Romans were wont to burn their Dead.

^w Conf. § 10. supra. ^x Πνεῖ μὲν ἐξέδοσαν τὴν νεκρὸν, ὡς λέγεται. Plut. in *Numa*. p. 74. Conf. Ciceron. de Legib. Lib. II. ^y Plin. N. H. Lib. VII. Cap. 54. Cicero de Legib. Lib. II.

Manner of Buryal, us'd by the *Jews*, and other Oriental Nations, again into Practise. Thus they *render'd back the Body to the Earth from whence 'twas originally deriv'd^z*: and restor'd anew *the antient and better Custom of Interment^a*; detesting the *Funeral-Piles* of the Pagans, and condemning the *Way of Sepulture by Fire^b*.

That Custom fell into Disuse as the Christian Religion prevail'd.

§ 29. But 'twill not be so easy certainly to determin, either at what Time the Christians first began to bury: or when they quitted the *Sepulchreta* of the Heathens, pitch'd upon new ones, and interr'd their Dead apart. As 'tis beyond controversy that several of them kept on in the old Way, and continued, for some Time, to burn; those who chose rather to bury, did it in common with their Pagan Neighbours: and repositied their Dead in the same Place^c. Of this, without going further, we have Proof from the Bones found here lying

^a Reddamus id terræ, unde ortum est. Lactant. de vero cultu *Lib. VI. p. 545.* Ed. Oxon. ^a Veterem & meliorem consuetudinem humandi frequentamus. Minut. Fel. *p. 327.* ^b Exsecrantur rogos, & damnant ignium sepulturas. Id. *p. 97.* ^c V. Differt sur le Culte des Saints inconnus. par. P. Mabillon. *p. 14. & seqq.*

lying along with the Urns^d. 'Tis very likely that for some Time, at first, the Pagans and Christians liv'd quietly and amicably together: and the latter burn'd, or bury'd the Deceas'd, each according to his own fancy. But as Conversions were daily made: and the Number of Profelytes became considerable, the Pagans began to take alarm, and think their Paternal Religion in Danger. This gave Rise to Controversies and Disputes: and, as these grew hot, Feuds and Animosities arose, in course. Thereupon the Parties began to distinguish themselves: and each recede from other as far as possible. The Christians, from the very Beginning, were not content only to withdraw from the Pagan Temples and Sacrifices, but declin'd joining in the Publick Processions, the Lustrations, and other Solemnities: and deny'd paying the usual Salutations to the *Hermæ*, and Statues^e, that stood abroad in the Streets, and High-Ways^f; so far from it, that they reproach'd
and

^d Conf. § 11. supra. ^e Dii Semitales d. ^f Vid. Virgilii Catal. de Sabino: & Not. Jos. Scalig. in loc.

and expos'd those who did^g. Nay afterwards, that they might separate and keep to as great Distance as possible, they refus'd so much as to eat or drink with them^h: or to comply with some of even the most innocent and indifferent of the common Customs: and in particular that of the ordinary Sepulture. As to the Pagans, they were far from being so shy and scrupulous of their Part: but were forward enough to fall into those Practices of the Christians that they liked, and thought preferable to their own. This was the Case of their Sepulture; which therefore they did not stick readily to exchange for the Christian: and this had obtain'd universally in the Time of *Macrobius*ⁱ. How much sooner, is not easy to determin, for want of Records, and Testimonies; this being the oldest extant. But *learned Men conjecture* that *burning fell* into general *Disuse towards the latter End* of

^g Min. Felix, in Octavio. ^h *Vid.* Auctorem Recognitionum Clementinarum. *Lib.* II. *Cap.* 70. & seqq. ⁱ Urendi corpora defunctorum usus nostro seculo nullus fit. *Saturnal. Lib.* VII. *Cap.* 7.

of the Times of the Antonines^k. To which Conjecture the Coin of *Antoninus Pius*, found in this Burying-Place^l, may perhaps be thought to give some Countenance. Without ever entring into that, the finding these Bones, not only within the old City-Wall^m, but repositied along with the Urnsⁿ, carries the Date of their Sepulture up very high.

§ 30. A late Writer, to whose Labours Religion, and indeed good Letters, stand deeply indebted, has pruduc'd several very surprizing Proofs that Christianity obtain'd very early here in *Britain*^o. To this these Observations give some further Attestation: and also shew that the Christians were here as careful to distinguish themselves from the Pagans, as at *Rome*, in *Italy*, and elsewhere.

§ 31. It will not be thought strange that these Bones should be preserv'd, and remain intire so long,
F
when

Christianity very antient in Britain.

Of the Preservation of the Bones, of Persons bury'd, for so many Ages.

^k Quando cadavera cremari desierint — incertum est. Quanquam viri docti id sub extrema Antoninorum tempora factum conjiciant; quibus non repugnaverim. Oct. Ferrarii Dissert. de veterum lucernis sepulchralib. p. 31. ^l Conf. § 10. supra. ^m Vid. § 11. supra. ⁿ Vid. § 9. supra. ^o Bp. Stillingfleet Orig. Britan. Chap. 1.

when 'tis consider'd that they were found in a Clay so stiff and close that they might have lain safe there for many Ages more, had they not been thus disturb'd. From the Shells and other Marine Bodies, that are Remains of the Deluge^p, and found at this Day firm and found in that sort of Clay, as well as other terrestrial Matter, we have Proof sufficient how far it is capable of preserving such Bodies. Of the two, 'tis indeed much the more surprizing that the Cinders or Burnt-Bones should be so little alter'd as we now find them. For these, being injur'd and prey'd upon by the Fire, were so much the more tender and liable to perish: and, since these are so safely transmitted down to our Times, there cannot well be any Difficulty as to the other.

The means
of disco-
vering the
Situation
of the se-
veral Tem-
ples an-
ciently in
London.

§ 32. As from the Urns, and Places of Sepulture, the Walls, and Bounds of the City, may be traced; so from the Places where *Patera*, *Simpula*, *Praefericula*, and other Vessels of Sacrifice, have been turn'd forth of the Earth and Rubbish,

Judgement

^p Vid. Nat. Hist. of the Earth. Part 2.

Judgement may be pass'd of the Site of the Temples of this City : and, by the Figures, and *Insignia*, exhibited upon some of those Vessels, of the Deities that they were us'd in the Worship of, and that those Temples were dedicated unto.

§33. Of this we have a Sample in the various Things digg'd up near St. Paul's Church. In particular, as well the Tusks of Bores, Horns of Oxen, and of Stags : as the Representations of Deer, and even of *Diana* her self, upon the Sacrificing Vessels ; of all which there are Instances, in my Collection. Nay I have likewise a small Image of that Goddess that was found not far off. These plainly enough import that there was thereabouts antiently a Temple of *Diana* ; as has been indeed the common Tradition⁹ and Opinion. Nor assuredly would the very learned Writer^r, who has lately call'd this in Question, ever have done that, had he known of these Things : and that there was yet remaining such Evidence there

A Temple of *Diana* formerly near the Place where now St. Paul's Church is.

F 2

of

⁹ Burton's Com. on *Antonin.* p. 169. ^r Bp. Stillingfleet. *Antiq. London.* p. 471. & 542.

of the Sacrifice of *Stags* ; which he allows to be *the proper Sacrifice to Diana*^r.

But, Sir, I have, before I was aware, much exceeded the Bounds that I, at first, propos'd to my self : and I blush when I reflect how much of that Time I have thus taken up with Trifles, that you, of all Men living, know how to imploy so much better. For which Reason I shall not detain you longer than while I assure you that I am, with the utmost Regard,

SIR,

Your most obedient

humble Servant

Gresham College
23. June 1707.

J. WOODWARD.

^r Bp. *Stillingfleet*. *Antiq. London*. p. 546.



T O

Mr. THOMAS HEARNE,
at Edmund Hall, Oxford.

S I R,

§ 1.  Long with this, I send, The Occa-
sion of
writing
the forego-
ing Ac-
count. as you command me, the Account of the Urns, and other Anti-
quities, digg'd up in this Neigh-
bourhood. 'Twas address'd, as
you see, to Sir *Christopher Wren*;
who return'd it back, after a very
short Time, desiring it might be
printed. That was the only Thing
in which I ever differ'd in Opinion
from him: and, tho' four Years
have pass'd since, I cannot but still
retain my first Sentiments; in which
I'm confident you'l join me. 'Twas
wrote during a few Days that I
was under an Indisposition that
suffer'd me to stir very little abroad.
Those

Those Antiquities being then newly discover'd : and at a Juncture too when Studies of greater Application were not proper for the State in which I happen'd to be, I turn'd my Thoughts upon those. I did that partly for my Diversion, and to pass away the Time : and partly to shew a Gentleman, who visited me daily, and had otherwise a great deal of Wit, but was wont to slight such Things, that they were useless only to those who either wanted Capacity, or Attention to reflect rightly upon them. The Paper that Sir *Christopher Wren* sent back, is either lost or mislaid : and this is copied from such Scraps as I happen'd to keep by me. Only I have added the Authorities and Passages of the Antients ; which, I think, were not in that. One, who judges so well of Things, and with the Exactness that you always do, will soon discern a great Number of Faults in it ; but by those you'll see 'tis genuine, and that I wrote it ; which I flatter my self will intitle it to Pardon with a Gentleman that has the Goodness to be so partial

partial and favourable to me as you ever are.

———— *Namque tu solebas*

Meas esse aliquid putare nugas.

And yet I fear you'll hardly forbear thinking me too lavish and profuse where I'm treating of this Town. Tho' if you knew how great an Admirer I am of it, you would rather wonder that I exceeded not even those Bounds. The *Basse-Reliefe* upon the Monument, in which Time [the God *Chronus*] is represented raising the City [the *Dea Londinia*] out of Ruins, brought to my Mind the Passage of *Claudian*. This probably Mr. *Cibber* had likewise in View when he design'd that Work; which is much the finest of the Kind in all the City.

As my Health return'd, Matters of greater Exigence, pressing in, took me off from these Pursuits. So that you'll be the less surpriz'd to see so many Marks of Hurry and Precipitance, as you will, towards the End. The two Paragraphs, relating to the early Times of the Christian Religion, I was going to have retrench'd. But I left them
standing

standing only as Memorials for Inquiry, and further Consideration ; being far from intending to assert any thing positively in an Affair that I had not Time thorowly to consider.

An ancient
Roman
Tower yet
standing in
London-
Wall.

§ 2. You'l find a pretty full and particular Description of that Part of *London-Wall* that join'd to *Bishops-Gate*. It consisted of three different Sorts of Work, rais'd in three several Ranges, one over an other. Any one who has the curiosity to see a Sample of the uppermost, yet standing, may do it on each Side *Moor-Gate*, for a considerable Extent: as also of the middlemost; especially on the West Side of that Gate, at the Distance of about 20 or 30 Paces, where 'tis yet firm, and has suffer'd very little Dilapidation. Of the lowest, or *Roman-Work*, there are considerable Remains, on the South Side of *Ald-gate*, in the Place call'd the *Vine-yard*. And about the Middle of *Hounds-Ditch*, there's yet standing one of the Towers, of that Wall, pretty intire. 'Tis compos'd of Stone, with Layers of Brick interpos'd,

pos'd; after the *Roman Manner*: and is the most considerable Remain of *Roman Workmanship*, yet extant, in any Part of *England*, that I know of, being 26 Foot in Height. By this, Judgment may be form'd of the original Height of the *Roman Wall* about *London*. Which must have been vastly great; especially if the Surface of the Ground thereabouts has been rais'd in the same Proportion that it hath in other Parts of the City. For, in Sinking, upon several Occasions, the Workmen, in some Places, have pass'd thorow six, in others twelve, nay twenty Foot of Rubbish, before they came to the natural Earth. Which may serve as a further Inforcement of what I have offer'd relating to the Insults and Havock that the City hath sustain'd in former Times.

§ 3. Since that Letter was wrote, there's publish'd, *A Commentary upon the Itinerary of Antoninus thorow Britain*, wrote by a Gentleman who carries a very high Character with all that are Judges of Learning.

Of Dr.
Gale's
Comment
on *Antoninus's Itine-
rary*.

G

There

There are a great Number of Things, very curious, and of real Use, now first advanc'd in this Work : and several relating to the antient State of *London*. But yet there are some to which I'm perswaded, Sir, you'll not so readily give Assent : and in particular to that Conjecture that *London was first built on the South Side of the Thames*^a. What induced him to this Opinion was first, That *Ptolemy* places *London* in *Kent*. Secondly, That the Fields, betwixt *Lambeth* and *Southwark*, have been, from Time immemorial, a Royal De-mean. Thirdly, That three *Roman* High-Ways met there. Fourthly, That there was a *Castrum* or *Roman* Town there. This he collects partly from *Southwark*, retaining still the Name of *the Burrough*, which was the Name given by the *Saxons* to those Towns : and partly from *Roman* Coins, *tessellated Pavements*, and *Bricks*, that were digg'd up in *St. George's Fields*.

§ 4. As

^a Dr. Gale. Com. in Anton. Iter. Britann. p. 64, 65.

§4. As to *Ptolemy*, he liv'd at a great Distance : and in a Country that had no Intercourse with *Britain*. So that 'tis the less strange that he should not have right Information of Things here. He has committed no small Errors, in his placing of Towns, in Countries that were much nearer to him ; of which I shall give some Instances, on an other Occasion, when I come to consider an Opinion, started not long ago, about a Change in the Latitude of Places^b. *Tacitus* had a most exact Intelligence of the Affairs of *Britain* : and was, of the two, somewhat the older Writer. So that if *London* had been first built in *Kent*, and standing there in the Time of *Ptolemy*, it must needs have stood there in the Time of *Tacitus*. But that it certainly did not. This is plain from his Account of the March of *Suetonius Paulinus* : and the Action of *Boudicea* at *Camulodunum* : her causing her Army to fall upon *London*, and *Verulam* at once, and involve

both

London not
first built
on the
South Side
the *Thames*.

G 2

^b *Vid.* Nat. Hist. of the Earth, Part I.

both in the *same Ruin*^c. Or, if there were no other Proof, what he observes of the *Sweetness of the Place*^d, and Happyness of the Situation of *London*, suits rightly and well to this, but not by any Means to that Side of the River. This every one must admitt at first View ; besides that, in those Times, Things were there in much worse Condition than in ours. The Tract of Land he mentions, is flat and low : and a great Part of it was then in the Power of the *Thames*, and under Water, every high Tide ; till that River was, in after Ages, restrain'd, and kept to the Channel, by Banks cast up with an in incredibly great Labour and Expense. Not but that there might be some part of *St. George's Fields* that was not overflow'd : and there probably, at some Time or other, was a *Roman Habitation*, or *Castrum* ; whereof the Pavements, Bricks, and other Antiquities, which that excellent Writer mentions, might be Remains.

^c *Eadem Clades. Annal. Lib. XIV. Cap. 33.* ^d *Loci Dulcedo* *ibid.*

mains. But there have been other like Antiquities discover'd, from that Place, onwards, for some Miles Eastward, near the *Lock*, in the Gardens along the South-Side of *Deptford-Road*, a little beyond *Deptford*, on *Black-Heath*, &c. There's no Doubt but, Sir, you have observ'd the Coin of *Cunobelin*, in the first Table of *Cambden*, that exhibits an Head with two Faces, in manner of a *Fanus Bifrons*. I have now in my Custody the Head of an antient *Terminus*, likewise with two Faces. This probably was only a Piece of *British* Imitation of *Roman* Work. But there were found along with it, large flat Bricks, and other Antiquities, that were unquestionably *Roman*. All these were retriev'd, about twenty Years since, in digging in *Mr. Cole's* Gardens, by the Road mention'd above. I have seen likewise a *Simpulum* that was digg'd up near *New-Cross*. And there were several Years ago discover'd two Urns, and five or six of those Viols that are usually call'd *Lachrymatories*, a little beyond *Deptford*. Nay there hath been,

been, very lately, a great Number of Urns, and other Things, discover'd on *Black-Heath*. All which prove nothing more than that there were Habitations, probably scattering and at Intervalls, all along that, which was doubtless a *Roman Road*. Indeed the *Terminus*, found just by, adds some Confirmation to this Opinion. Besides, in several Places, lying all nearly in a Line, and particularly a little on this Side *Shooters Hill*, where the Country is flat and low, I formerly^e took Notice of some Remains of a rais'd or high Way, like those, cast up by the *Romans*, that I have observ'd in *Somerset-shire*, *Oxford-shire*, *Glocestershire*, and other Parts of *England*. The Argument, that the Fields, between *Lambeth* and *Southwark*, were a Royal Demean, proves, quite contrary to what it's brought for,

^e That was four or five Years ago: and, being unwilling to rely upon my Memory too far, I got Mr. H. a very intelligent Gentleman, to ride thither this Morning, and take a Review of this Way. It is about four Foot in Height: and at least fourty in Breadth. He observ'd it for near $\frac{1}{4}$ of a Mile in Length. The Place is call'd *Green-Cemmon*.

for, rather that those Fields were gain'd from the *Thames*, than that *London* ever stood there. The Kings of *England* were, from our oldest Notices of Things, intituled by the Laws to all such Land as lay betwixt high and low Water Mark : and was gain'd from either the Sea, or such Rivers as ebb'd and flow'd ; but none of our Kings ever pretended any Right or Title to this, more than to every other City of the Kingdom. Nor can any Thing be inferr'd from that Meeting of the three Ways that this learned Gentleman insists upon. Of which Side of the River soever *London* stood, there can be no Doubt but there would be Ways^f to it from all Parts of *Britain* ; it being at that Time a Town so large, and populous, so much fam'd for Trafic, and plenty of Provisions^g. Which, rightly reflected upon, is indeed alone enough to evince that it did not then stand on that Side the Water.

I have

^f The Author of the *Itinerary*, usually ascribed to *Antoninus*, hath traced the several *Ways* to *London* ; as well those on the *Southwark*, as those on this Side the *Thames*. ^g Tacit. *ibid*.

(56)

I have some other Things to offer to your Consideration ; but, very happily, for your Quiet and Respite, I'm interrupted : and can only further have the Pleasure of Subscribing my self, what I truly am, with great Esteem,

SIR,

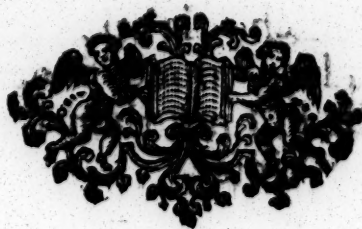
Your very faithful

humble Servant

Gresham College
30. Nov. 1711.

J. WOODWARD.

F I N I S.



Books written by the Author.

BRIEF Instructions for makeing Observations in all Parts of the World : as also for Collecting, Preserving, and sending over, Natural Things. Being an Attempt to settle an Universal Correspondence, for the Advancement of Knowledge, both Natural and Civil. 4to.

Naturalis Historia Telluris illustrata & aucta. Unà cum ejusdem Defensione ; præsertim contra nuperas Objectiones D. El. Camerarii Med. Prof. Tubingensis. Accedit Methodica, et ad ipsam Naturæ Normam instituta, Fossilium in Classes Distributio, 8vo. 1714.

The State of Physick, and of Diseases ; with an Idea of the Nature and Mechanism of Man : of the Disorders to which it is obnoxious : and of the Method of Rectifying them. 8vo. 1718. These three printed for *R. Wilkin* at the King's Head in *St. Paul's Church-Yard*.

Some Thoughts and Experiments concerning Vegetation. Read in a Lecture before the Royal Society : and afterwards printed by command of the said Society. *Philos. Transact.* Vol. 21. N^o 253.

In the Press, An Essay towards a Natural History of the Earth, and Terrestrial Bodies, especially Minerals : as also of the Sea, Rivers, and Springs. With an Account of the Universal Deluge : and of the Effects that it had upon the Earth. The Third Edition. London printed for *A. Bettefworth* and *W. Taylor* in *Pater noster Row*, *R. Gosling* in *Fleetstreet*, and *J. Clarke* under the *Royal Exchange*, *Cornhill*. 8vo. 1723.

